(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) No, Sir. No proposal by the name 'Kendra Sahithi Academy Golden Jubilee Complex' has been received. However, a proposal for construction of 'Kerala Sahithya Academy Golden Jubilee Cultural Complex' has been received in this Ministry.

(b) The proposal was incomplete and was without the relevant information/documents required under the Multipurpose Cultural Complex (MPCC) Scheme.

(c) A copy of the Scheme has been sent to the Government of Kerala with the request to send the proposal with relevant information/documents required by the Scheme.

Development of Tamil Culture and Tamil Language

2295. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have initiated any measure for the preservation and development of Tamil culture and Tamil language which are very ancient and are thriving continuously in the world history when many cultures and languages had witnessed downfall;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any amount was allocated by Government for the purpose during each of the last two years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Culture has taken steps to promote and preserve peforming arts and traditions of various States of the country including Tamil Culture of Tamil Nadu. These activities are carried out through the attached, subordinate and autonomous organizations of the Ministry. Promotion of Visual and Plastic Art is being done by Sangeet Natak Akademi in the Tamil Nadu State. The Lalit Kala Akademi established a regional Centre in the year 1977 to initiate the promotional

activities in this field. The Sahitya Akademi has published new and reprinted books on important scholars in Tamil. Anthologies of Tamil Poetry, short Stories, Essays have been published in major Indian languages also. Monographs on Tamil writers have been published and translated in other languages.

Consequent to the declaration of Tamil as classical language by the Government of India, the task of implementing the Central Plan Scheme for Classical Tamil was entrusted to the Central Institute of Indian Languages (Cll), Mysore. The focus of the activities is on research relating to the Classical phase of the history of Tamil, *i.e.* the period from 300 B.C. to 600 A.D. As the major component of the Scheme, the Centre of Excellence for Classical Tamil was established in March, 2006. Doctoral and Post Doctoral Fellowships have also been awarded to deserving young scholars engaged in research on Classical Tamil.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The details are enclosed in Statement.

Statement

Details of grants given during the last two years from Development of Tamil Culture and Tamil Language

1. Sangeet Natak Akademi

Financial Assistance to Cultural Institutions

	No. of Institutions	Amount
2004-2005	16	5.10 lakhs
2005-2006	12	4.60 lakhs

2. National Archives of India

(A) *Financial Assistance for Development activities and preservation of Public Records*

(i) Tamil Nadu State Archives	2004-2005	Rs. 10.00 Lakhs
(ii) Deptt. of Archeology Library	2005-2006	Rs. 4.53 Lakhs
(iii) Govt. Museum	2005-2006	Rs. 3.75 lakhs

(B) *Financial Assistance for preservation of manuscripts/rare books etc.*

(i) Krishnamurthi Foundation India	2005-2006	Rs. 50,000/-
(ii) TheC.R Ramaswami Aiyar Foundation	2005-2006	Rs. 25,000/-
(iii) Prinicipal & Secretary, Madras Christian College	2005-2006	Rs. 50,000/-

3. Ministry of HRD

An amount of Rs. 3.32 crores was allocated during the Xth Five Year Plan from July 2005 to March 2007 under the Central Plan Sceme for Classical Tamil.

Non-payment of maturity value to small depositors

2296. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many Non-Banking Finance Companies like Escorts Finance Ltd., New Delhi, are not paying either the interest or the maturity value to even small depositors having deposits of Rs. 16000/-or below;

(b) if so, whether the mandatory Government guidelines to be followed by these Finance Companies are being followed by such companies to protect the interest of small depositors; and

(c) whether there is any monitoring organization with the Ministry to \ keep a watchful eye on performance of such companies and Escorts Finance be advised to pay immediately to small depositors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that Escorts Finance Limited, New Delhi started delaying/defaulting in repayment of deposit liabilities since October 2005 due to liquidity constraints. In the circumstances, the Company filed a Scheme of arrangement under provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 before the Hon'-ble Delhi High Court. As the Scheme was not in the interest of the depositors, RBI filed an intervention petition on May 5, .